

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending. Claims 1, 16-17 and 10 are amended herein. Claims 4, 6-9, 13-14, 16 and 19-23 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of Claims 4, 6-9, 13-14, 16 and 19-23.

103 Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1-3, 5, 10-12, 15 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arakawa et al. ("Arakawa;" U.S. Patent No. 6,577,358) in view of Bauer et al. ("Bauer;" U.S. Patent No. 6,433,913). The Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-3, 5, 10-12, 15 and 17-18 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Arakawa and Bauer, alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 1 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method that includes "utilizing openings that extend through said polyester sheet to expose an edge portion of said silver flash layer; and applying a conductive bus layer around the edges of said lens, said conductive bus layer providing an electrical coupling between said silver flash layer and said conductive bus layer through said openings" (emphasis added). Claims 2-3 and 5 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 10 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a conductive lens that includes "a polyester sheet ... having an opening formed therethrough; and a conductive bus covering a portion of said lens, said silver flash layer, and said polyester sheet, said conductive bus electrically coupling with said silver flash layer through said

opening” (emphasis added). Claims 11-12 and 15 are dependent on Claim 10 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 17 recites that an embodiment of the present invention is directed to a method that includes “utilizing openings that extend through said polyester sheet to expose an edge portion of said silver flash layer; and applying a conductive bus layer around the edges of said lens, said conductive bus layer providing an electrical coupling between said silver flash layer and a metal frame through said openings” (emphasis added). Claim 18 is dependent on Claim 17 and recites additional limitations.

Applicants respectfully submit that Arakawa does not show or suggest the present claimed invention as described by independent Claims 1, 10 and 17. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Arakawa does not show or suggest the claim limitations cited above. The instant Office Action states that Arakawa discloses openings in a polyester sheet. However, Applicants respectfully submit that Arakawa does not show or suggest such openings, in particular openings that extend through a polyester sheet, and more particularly openings extending through a polyester sheet that provide an electrical coupling between a silver flash layer and a conductive bus layer, as recited in the claims.

Applicants also respectfully submit that Bauer does not overcome the shortcomings of Arakawa. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Bauer, alone or in combination with Arakawa, does not show or suggest the claim limitations cited above.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Arakawa and Bauer, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present claimed invention as recited by independent Claims 1, 10 and 17. Accordingly, Applicants
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respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting independent Claims 1, 10 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed and that Claims 1, 10 and 17 are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 2-3, 5, 11-12, 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is also traversed, as Claims 2-3, 5, 11-12, 15 and 18 are dependent on allowable base claims and recite additional limitations.

Conclusions

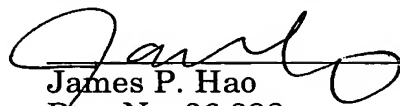
In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-3, 5, 10-12, 15 and 17-18 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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